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LONDON TRANSPORT STRIKE SETTLED

Men Resuming Work To-Morrow

London, Jan. 16.

The ten-day strike of London transport workers was settled to-day when delegates of the strikers voted to return to work on Saturday.

In the meantime, as a result of the strike, only two ships were unloading to-day in the port of London, normally one of the world's busiest harbours.

Transport workers accepted the employers' offer of an eight-hour day with overtime payable after eight hours.

Mr Arthur Deakin, Secretary General of the Transport and General Workers Union, announcing the decision to call off the strike with only three dissenting votes, said delegates had promised to do their best over the coming week-end to get supplies to London's shops, where meat rations are scant, butter and fats perilously low and vegetables vanishing fast.

Mr Deakin said it was not possible to resume work before Saturday, because of "commitments previously entered into which must be discharged to provide orderly resumption of work all around."

He did not mention the terms of settlement, but it was generally understood the employers granted an eight-hour day and overtime. No mention was made of the strikers' demands for a 44-hour week and a fortnight annual vacation.—United Press.

MAJOR VICTORY

London, Jan. 17.

Leaders of Britain's unauthorised truck strike called off a walkout amid indications of a major victory for their followers.

Fifty thousand strikers were expected to start returning to work on Friday.

Troops on the job since Monday probably will continue to truck food to retailers in the greater London area on Friday, although the leaders said 15,000 striking drivers would be at their wheels then.—Associated Press.

AUSTRIA TO BE CONSULTED ON TREATY

Auspicious Start

London, Jan. 16.

The Big Four Council of Deputies agreed to-day that Austria would be brought into consultation on the treaty to be drafted for the Austrians. It agreed that the Austrian pact would be called a "treaty for the re-establishment of an independent and democratic Austria."

The United States delegate, General Mark Clark, announced the withdrawal of the American draft peace treaty with Austria and said a new draft would be presented within a few days. The United Kingdom draft remained before the deputies. The French draft will be submitted in a day or two.

Applications to be heard on the Austrian treaty have been received from Yugo-Slavia, Poland, Canada, Australia and South Africa. The deputies decided that these countries will be heard first and Austria last.

SOVIET SUGGESTION

The Soviet deputy, M. Feodor Gusev, suggested that the Big Four powers and Austria be named parties to the treaty in the preamble and that other states be given the opportunity to adhere by a special clause within the treaty. No agreement was reached on that point.

The Yugo-Slav memorandum submitted to the deputies demanded the cession to Yugo-Slavia of the southern and central portion of Carinthia, leaving Austria only a small strip of the province. The Yugo-Slavs also demanded the cession of two frontier districts of Styria. Territory claimed by the Yugo-Slavs includes Kwangenfurt Villach.—United Press.

"STATE" TREATY

London, Jan. 16.

Discussions on the Austrian treaty by the foreign ministers' deputies have made an auspicious start here and political circles think the purpose of the Austrian note has been virtually achieved with the triple decision of the deputies firstly to draft a "treaty for the re-establishment of an independent and democratic Austria"—in other words, in the language of previous discussions, a "state treaty"—and not a "peace treaty"; secondly to invite representatives of the Austrian Government so that they could be "brought into consultation"; and thirdly to call in these representatives whenever specific claims raised by other interested countries make this desirable.

Austrian circles here, while officially reticent, were privately clearly satisfied with the trend of events and expressed the view that Dr Karl Gruber, the Foreign Minister, would probably leave Vienna as soon as an official invitation had reached the Austrian Government.

Interest in the Yugo-Slav memorandum published to-day slackened when it was realised the claims were submitted to the foreign minister council last February and that Britain, the United States and France have renewed their support for the Austrian frontiers of 1937 since then.

Claims to a quarter of the territory and almost a half of Corinthia, in-

(Continued on Page 4)

DIDN'T LINGER ON THE TRIP

London, Jan. 16.

Squadron-Leader W. A. Waterton, flying the Royal Air Force Gloster Meteor 4-EE-549 which made the world's speed record at 616 miles per hour last September, flew from Paris to London to-day in 21 minutes and 11 seconds, giving a speed of 618.4 miles per hour.

Squadron-Leader Waterton, now demobilised from the Royal Air Force, is a test pilot for the Gloster Aircraft Company.

The speed may be subject to variation as the official flying distance from Paris to Croydon airport has not been finally settled.

Squadron-Leader Waterton said that he flew the whole distance at about 10,000 feet in excellent weather.—Reuter.

U.S. NAVY & DAIREN

Travel Restrictions Imposed

New York, Jan. 16.

The Scripps-Howard correspondent in Shanghai, William H. Newton, who recently exposed the Russian Dairen ultimatum to an American ship, reported to-day from Shanghai that the U.S. Navy through the office of the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington, has definitely banned American reporters and businessmen from naval ships calling at Russian-controlled Far East ports.

Newton said: "The action obviously resulted from the Dairen incident."

He said he learned of the Navy's orders from Mr James E. McKenna, executive officer at the U.S. Consulate-General, Shanghai, when he applied to-day for clearance to Dairen on the next Navy courier ship due to go to Dairen soon.

Newton explains there are no other means of travel to Dairen except by Navy ships, hence the Navy Department order defeats the purpose of the U.S. January 6 note to China and Russia, expressing the hope that normal conditions would be restored promptly in Dairen to permit American citizens to go and reside there "in pursuit of their legitimate activities."—United Press.

NAVY EXPLANATION

Washington, Jan. 17.

The Navy said that it had ordered its ship Commanders to take no more American businessmen or newspapermen to Dairen unless they were cleared by the State Department or another "responsible" agency.

The Navy spokesman said the order does not constitute a ban on civilian travel to Dairen or other ports.

The reason for the order was not stated officially.—Associated Press.

Distinguished Visitor Here

DR. HADEN GUEST

Dr Leslie Haden Guest, M.C., Member of Parliament for Islington, North, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Hongkong from Singapore by BOAC flying-boat yesterday, and is staying at Government House until they leave again for Singapore on Sunday.

Dr Haden Guest is making a tour to study the Services' medical establishments, with a view to recommending where they can be reduced without impairment to efficiency.

Keenly interested in all matters pertaining to medicine, Dr Guest this morning visited Queen Mary Hospital and spent a long time inspecting the institution and meeting principal members of the staff.

Dr Haden Guest has a distinguished record. He studied at the London Hospital, served in the South African War in 1902 and was in the Red Cross and the RAMC in France, Palestine and Egypt during World War I. In 1940 he was gazetted a Major in the RAMC.

He entered Parliament representing Southwark, North in 1923 as Labour MP, but resigned in 1927. However he rejoined the Labour Party the same year and was elected for Islington, North in 1937, which constituency he has since continued to represent.

He married Edith, daughter of the late George Macqueen of Braintree, Essex in 1944.

Tilden Sentenced To Road Gang

Los Angeles, Jan. 16.

William Tilden, 53, famed "Big Bill" of world tennis courts, was sentenced to nine months with a road gang for contributing to the delinquency of a 14-year-old boy.

Admitting his guilt, Tilden told the court, "I am very sorry, I regret the incident."

The incident occurred on November 23 when Tilden was arrested in a parked car with a boy on a busy boulevard.—United Press.

EDITORIAL

The Unconstitutional Strike

OUT of the welter of words that have been cabled to Hongkong by the international news agencies concerning the strike by London's transport workers, and the consequent "sympathetic" walk-outs by dockers and other kindred labourers, we have discovered that this "sound and fury" has its origin in a request for a 44-hour week and 14 days' annual holiday with pay. Not a particularly startling demand in this era of shorter working hours, more pay and increased leisure time. But for reasons, only very sketchily explained, the official leaders of these truculent workers—the trade union bosses—have abandoned their members. Ostensibly this repudiation is based on the argument that the strikers are acting unconstitutionally (judged by trade union rules) and they will continue to be regarded as outcasts and cads until they are willing to go back to work and submit their case to arbitration.

The pleading is feasible in itself. The rule of anarchy is always abhorrent; something to be shunned, shamed and shelved. Trade Unions, as responsible organisations representing the interests of a vast number of workers, are entitled to loyalty and obedience from their members. But even golden rules are conditioned by circumstances. And it is circumstances, probably more than principles, that governed and encouraged the strike now expected to end to-morrow.

For example, although the men were urged to return to work and submit their case to arbitration, we find that their particular demands were originally lodged nine months ago; surely time enough for any arbitration court to get to grips with the problem? Or for the men's union leaders to have completed negotiations with employers? The Labour government, always constitutional, regarded the strikers as lawless elements, and called out the troops to take over their duties. Possibly, in view of the peculiar circumstances, this was the only proper action to take. On the other hand, of course, the same government might have advised the employers to meet the men's demands. At least, the housewives of Britain would not, to-day, be going without meat.

AURIOL ELECTED PRESIDENT OF FRENCH REPUBLIC

Versailles, Jan. 16.

M. Vincent Auriol, Socialist leader and Speaker of the National Assembly, was elected President of the Fourth French Republic to-day.

The two houses of the French Parliament, sitting in joint session in the gilt and crystal Salle des Seances of the Palace of Versailles, elected M. Auriol by secret ballot.

As President, M. Auriol will appoint a premier to succeed M. Leon Blum, who accepted the office on an interim basis to tide the nation over the grave economic crisis.

M. Auriol received 452 out of 883 votes cast, namely, ten more than the absolute majority required for election. There were no blank voting slips.

His election was announced to the joint session by M. Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Communist Party and Vice-President of the National Assembly.

The election puts France back on the road to a standard constitution set up for the first time since President Albert Lebrun and his government fled from Paris before the wave of Nazi troops.

BIG OVATION

When M. Duclos mounted the tribune to make the announcement, he was applauded by all Communists and Socialists, who rose to their feet. M. Auriol rose from the third row of benches among the Socialists and acknowledged standing the ovation by the entire Congress.

Other candidates and their votes were: August Champetier de Ribes (MRP), 242; Jules Gasser (Left Republican Union), 122; Michel Clemenceau (PRL), 60; others, seven.

As Duclos concluded reading the results of the voting, the entire Congress stood and sang the Marseillaise. M. Auriol immediately left his seat and retired to an adjoining small room to put on black tails and a top hat. He then returned to the chamber, where M. Duclos read him the address conferring on him presidential powers.

"M. Vincent Auriol having obtained an absolute majority of votes cast, I proclaim him President of the French Republic for seven years from to-day," said M. Duclos.—United Press.

COALITION GOVT. HITCH

Delaying Tactics By Japanese Leftists

Tokyo, Jan. 16.

Japanese observers said strong opposition by the Leftist group within the Social Democratic Party might delay for "several days" Premier Shigeru Yoshida's plans for the cabinet's resignation and the organisation of a new coalition cabinet.

They said labour organisations also were opposing the Social Democratic Party's participation in a coalition government dominated by so-called "reactionaries," Premier Yoshida and Baron Kijuro Shidehara—respectively the presidents of the Liberal and Progressive parties with an absolute majority in the House of Representatives.

RIGHT WING DILEMMA

Observers said owing to labour's attitude, the more powerful Rightist group of the Social Democratic Party, while favouring participation in a coalition government, is attempting to avoid a split within its own party's ranks and is at present pursuing a policy of trying to win over the Leftist elements.

The party spokesman said the party had not yet received a formal invitation from Yoshida to participate in a coalition cabinet.

Observers said the Yoshida cabinet was not resigning until assured of the Social Democratic Party's participation which probably would not be forthcoming until Saturday.

Meanwhile the Communist Party spokesman issued a statement to-day assailing the Social Democratic Rightist group's reported willingness to participate in a coalition government.—United Press.

Campaign For United Europe

CHURCHILL'S MOVE

London, Jan. 16.

Mr Winston Churchill to-day launched a campaign for a united Europe with the announcement of the formation of a British Provisional Committee of 23 prominent Britons described by the spokesman as "men of goodwill . . . including members of major political parties and representatives of wide spiritual and intellectual interests".

Mr Churchill said the Committee subscribed to the doctrine that if Europe is to survive, it must unite. He nevertheless made it clear that the sponsors had little hope of seeing the Soviet Union included.

The statement said: "The movement is not aimed against anyone. It is not anti-Soviet or anti-American, nor a British political move for power . . . We hope the Soviet will be a sympathetic, helpful and friendly neighbour which will see no difficulty in the group coming together on its borders . . . We are not prepared to lay down the boundaries of the Europe of the future. That is for those who wish to come together under the banner of European unity".

Mr Churchill said he proposed to invite representatives of similar groups in other countries to confer together on plans for common action.—United Press.

SOVIETS' NEW MOTOR CAR

Invisible Engine

London, Jan. 17.

Future citizens of Moscow will ride in automobiles with no visible engines instead of the gasoline-powered vehicles of to-day, according to the Soviet News, a publication of the Russian Embassy here.

The Soviet News reported this latest Russian automobile development in describing a streamlined coach drawing its power from a high-frequency cable installed deep beneath the surface of a roadway.

Currently on display at Moscow's Automobile Research Institute, the car has an apparatus which picks up the cable's magnetic field and transforms it into mechanical energy.

Institute demonstrators claim the magetic-powered car will be cheaper to produce and operate than the present-day automobile. Plans are current to use this type of transport in the Russian capital, they said.

With three or four high-frequency cables laid beneath city streets and arterial roads, the demonstrators predicted the new vehicle will make both overhead trolleybus wires and fume-producing automobiles obsolete.—Associated Press.

HAD THEIR DAY

Nuremberg, Jan. 17.

Four hundred officers of Hitler's former High Command will be released and sent home this week, United States lawyers disclosed yesterday.

These men were part of the so called OKW—the overall Command body which was headed by Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, hanged at Nuremberg.—Associated Press.

Detroit Explosion

Detroit, Jan. 16.

An explosion to-day wrecked a city fire station, killing two men and injuring ten others. It was believed to have been the result of gas or gasoline fumes.—United Press.

BENES' PROPHESY

Prague, Jan. 16.

Doctor Edouard Benes, President of Czecho-Slovakia, predicted in a speech here that the struggle against Fascism and Nazism in Germany would break out again with full force within four or five years, the Czecho-Slovakia News Agency reported to-day.—Reuter.

RADAR MAY HELP US TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MOON

New York.—When radar improves sufficiently, it may give information to help solve the question of the origin of the moon's craters. In the magazine Popular Astronomy, Robert S. Dietz points out an answer to one of the difficulties in the theories.

These theories are that the craters either are dead volcanoes or that they were made by meteors. If the moon has so many, there might be more on earth, although lack of atmosphere on the moon would account for some of the additional lunar craters.

Dietz says there probably are more meteor craters on earth than have been recognised as such. A clue to meteoric origin of earth craters is some fragments of the meteor. Dietz says the impact is so great that in most cases the meteor probably leaves no fragments.—Associated Press.

7,000 CIVILIANS EVACUATED

Hanoi Exodus Goes Smoothly

Hanoi, Jan. 17.

Approximately 6,000 Viet Namhese and 1,000 Chinese civilians were evacuated from the Sino-Viet Namhese quarter of Hanoi on Wednesday morning as a result of long, arduous negotiations by Chinese, American and British Consular officials with local Viet Namhese leaders to permit the civilians to leave the area.

An estimated 10,000 Chinese and several thousand Annamites are in the district which the Viet Namhese Tu Ve Armed Youth has been holding against a French siege.

The French authorities, informed by the Consuls, agreed on a four-hour truce and gave strict orders to posts which closely surround the district to cease fire. The evacuation was planned to begin at 8 a.m. with the truce expiring at noon.

Some 30 Indian merchants—British subjects—whose shops are in the district, were also evacuated.

CAR TRACKS AS GUIDE

Evacuees were instructed to follow street car tracks in leaving the district. Those who intended to enter the French controlled area were to take an exit on Boulevard Francis Garnier near a small lake. Those who intended to leave Hanoi entirely for the countryside were to present themselves at the French post guarding the Rue du Papier entrance.

The Chinese Consul General entered the surrounded district prior to 8 a.m. to give the Chinese inhabitants their latest instructions and the first group appeared at the French post at 8.45 a.m.

They were welcomed by the French Red Cross which gave them food, including milk for children.

Thousands of Viet Namhese, men, women and children, thronged through the other exit carrying their few possessions. All Viet Namhese were searched by military police and checked by French police officers for firearms.

Under a cold Tonkin rain the thousands of poorly dressed or ragged Viet Namhese waited calmly to be checked by police officers at the exit leading to the countryside where Viet Namhese troops hold positions a few miles distant.

French officials distributed leaflets explaining that the Viet Namhese civilians were free to remain in French controlled areas if they wished, or to proceed to the Viet Namhese lines. The French Red Cross also maintained a food station at this exit for Annamite evacuees, most of them young and middle aged men.

SEVERAL ARRESTS MADE

French officials also distributed copies of the French sponsored information bulletin in Annamite.

About 60 of the younger men were arrested by French soldiers on suspicion of being members of the Tu Ve after they discovered concealed arms on their persons.

Only a very small proportion of the Annamites who left the surrounded area elected to enter the French controlled quarter.

After a thorough check, they were led in groups of 100 across the bridge from the Viet Namhese controlled sector to an advanced French post.

Meanwhile, high French officials seemed earnestly holding the view that Ho Chi-minh, President of the Viet Namh regime, was not directly responsible for the De-

(Continued on Page 4)

Dickering About With Date For Disarmament Debate

New York, Jan. 16.

The United Nations Security Council has postponed till to-morrow its decision on the United States proposal to adjourn the disarmament debate till February 4.

Before the Council adjourned last night Sir Alexander Cadogan (Britain) supported the American proposal for a three-week adjournment of the discussion, saying: "I am all in favour of speed but not if it means sacrificing efficiency."

Sir Alexander raised the point that the disarmament conference in Geneva wanted a great deal of time because it was not clearly stated at the beginning how the commission should work.

In support of his proposal for postponement, Senator Austin (United States) declared: "I firmly believe that there is a good chance of our reaching an agreement by February 4 with respect to the implementation of a reduction and the regulation of armaments."

He added: "At the same time we would have a much closer agreement than now regarding the report of the Atomic Energy Commission."

Upholding the United States contention that the control of atomic energy should have priority, Senator Austin said that the General Assembly had left the Council on choice in the matter. It had told the Council to expedite the atomic energy report.

If the Soviet proposal for the Commission to inquire first into general disarmament was adopted, he said, the Council would be setting aside the work of one disarmament commission, which had finished the first phase of its duty—the Atomic Energy Commission.

The Soviet delegate, M. Andrei Gromyko, said that the General Assembly had given the Council the task of examining disarmament without delay. For this reason, he said, he could not agree to the American proposal to adjourn the question till February 4.

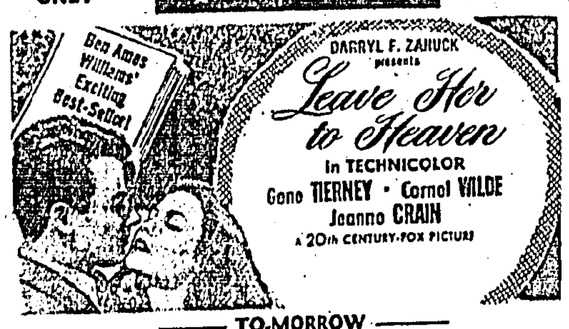
Dr Oscar Lange (Poland) said that if any country tried to delay the vital issue of disarmament, his reply would be supported by the peoples of the world.

Britain's case against Albania is not expected to reach the Security Council until next week. The question is likely to be discussed on Monday. The British delegation, it is understood, welcome the delay to permit experts to complete the imposing dossier of evidence.—Reuter.

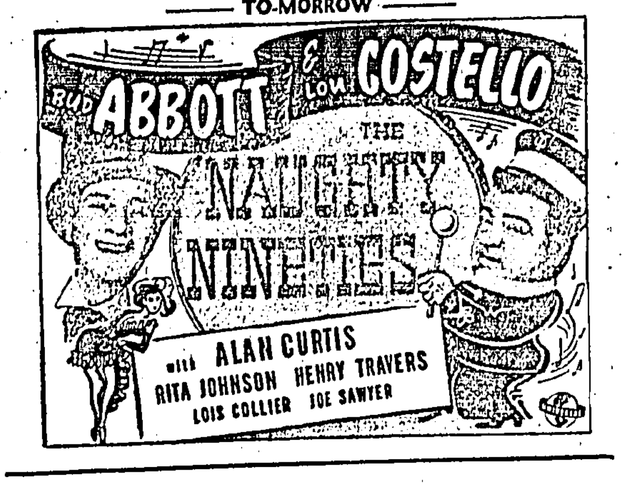
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BEAUTY SALON FOR PETS

Small business ventures took on a new twist with the opening in Pittsburgh, of a beauty salon for pets.

Eugene C. Ort, navy veteran, and John T. Budney run a pickup and delivery service. They shampoo, clip nails, scrub teeth, and comb and brush the animals.

A complete treatment includes feeding and a run around the block.

FLIES BUT CAN'T DRIVE A CAR

Ethel Altman, 16, newly-crowned U.S. national outboard racing champion and holder of a private pilot's licence, does not know how to drive a car.

Her father, a garage mechanic, said "She just isn't ready to learn yet."

At 16, Miss Altman was the youngest person in the United States to own a pilot's card. She has more than 300 solo hours in the air.

Using an eight-foot hydroplane, Miss Altman raced through the water at 34½ miles an hour to win the national outboard racing event at Kentucky Lake, Tennessee.

Coming Soon
VIVIEN LEIGH
CLAUDE RAINS
STEWART GRANGER
STANLEY HOLLOWAY
FLORA ROBSON and
A CAST of 1,000
in
BERNARD SHAW'S
Mighty Spectacle
in TECHNICOLOR!
CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA
Watch For It.

I believe Germany is winning her first great postwar victory

BLACKMAIL by COAL

SEFTON DELMER
veteran reporter of European events, returns from the Ruhr and Saar with a story of exceptional importance.

POST-HITLER Germany has won her first great political and diplomatic victory. What is more, she has won it with an ultimatum, without even having a sovereign government to serve it.

Within barely 16 months of the Big Three signing the Potsdam accord, Germany—partitioned, devastated, defenceless and occupied by the armies of her conquerors—has driven a coal train through the reparation clauses of Potsdam. That is, as I see it, the meaning of the Bevin-Byrnes plan for the economic regeneration of Germany.

She has brought off the same coup to-day as with the Dawes Plan in December 1923. To-day, again, the Germans are to get extensive credits "in order"—as Dr Rudolf Muller, of the German Economic Administration, puts it—"that Germany may repay what has been advanced and fulfil her obligation in the future."

And that is only the beginning. Next to be scrapped—or at least to be revised drastically in a sense favourable to German industrial prosperity—will be the Level of Industries Plan, the scheme which lays down how much industrial potential Germany shall be allowed to retain without endangering the security of Europe.

The doctrine that Germany should dismantle all plants capable of manufacturing war materials is likely to be reversed. Instead—that is what Dr Muller and his Germans are demanding—only those plants are to be dismantled which cannot be converted to purposes of peace production.

In other words, Germany is to cease to be an outcast and a pariah, and is to be taken into partnership—a reversal of policy which Germany's neighbours, first and foremost among them the French, are bound to greet with a howl of resentful indignation and fear.

Dr. MULLER'S PLAN:

IT provides for:

(1) Basic ration of 2,000 calories in place of 1,550 to-day, with 30 grammes (about an ounce) of fat in place of seven. German industrial exports to pay for food imports.

(2) Priority for German industry in exploitation of Germany's coal and iron resources. Production of coal and iron to be stepped up at full speed. Importation from abroad of raw materials and means of production needed for German industry. Revision of Level of Industries Plan and of present reparations schemes "which make any reconstruction of the German economy impossible."

(3) Credits to facilitate purchase of raw material and foodstuffs. Full participation by Germany in world export markets under normal business conditions.

(4) Reform of price and wage system.

(5) Reform of monetary system.

(6) Reform of the present "crippling" scale of taxation (prescribed by the Control Council) so that incentive towards intensive and rational efforts lacking to-day may be restored.

Third among immediate measures which Dr Muller's council demands should be taken in first stage of the plan's execution is:

Immediate cessation of the total or partial dismantling of plants with the exception of such as exclusively serve armament purposes.

The Coal Game

HOW have the Germans brought it off? By playing the Coal Game, and playing it better than even that great American champion of the Coal Game, labour leader John L. Lewis.

I have spent the last weeks watching them at it.

I put on miner's kit and went down mines in France, in the Saar, and in the Ruhr.

It was the same story everywhere.

The miners said: "C'est la nourriture qu'il nous faut" ("We need more food, more fats"). "Gibt uns Speck und ihr kriegt die Kohle" ("Give us bacon and you'll get the coal"). The managers, the planners, the engineers said: "We need labour, skilled labour. Get us more manpower and we'll produce more coal."

The industrialists said: "Give us coal and coke and we'll produce the steel and make the tractors and the fertiliser for the farmer to produce the food for the miner."

Each group believed that they deserved a priority over the others.

Up to now there has been only one clear priority: "We all of us had priority over the Germans. Last in the schedule of European reconstruction, it was agreed at Potsdam, should be the authors of all the desolation and waste. And that applied to the disposal of Germany's own resources as well.

It was a decision based on equity rather than economics, and it reckoned without the Coal Game and without the German miners, who had shown once before that they know how to play it—in 1923, when it was the French and not the British who were occupying the Ruhr.

'On condition'

THE German miners have a shrewd appreciation of how important they are to the economy of Europe. I was in an Essen street talking to a group of them and their wives when the subject of the American miners' strike came up.

"Na!" said one of the men. "I suppose you'll be counting on us here in the Ruhr to make up for what you're losing through the American strike. Well, all I say is, don't expect us to do anything about it until you have improved our conditions."

The rest of them took up his theme.

And all the time there was a truculent undercurrent of "You must make it worth our while if you want the coal."

The Ruhr's output has reflected the miners' discontent.

In October and November of 1945 a group of British experts made a careful survey of the Ruhr coal mines and the general conditions of production there. They did not overlook such factors as dislocated transport, scarcity of food, and lack of man-power. They drew up a plan of what the Ruhr could be expected to produce.

Their estimates, which they thought conservative, proved to be far too optimistic. They had reckoned without the Coal Game.

Low rations during the spring of 1946 have certainly played their part. But however well we feed them—and for the last three months the German underground coal worker has been getting 4,000 calories a day, only 200 less than before the war—the German miners, mine managers and mine engineers have got the idea that they are being exploited by their occupying enemies.

For the 'enemy'

THEY are convinced that their work is for the good of the enemy rather than that of the German people and that it is up to them to stand out for better conditions not only for themselves, but for their families and ultimately for their fellow Germans.

The Ruhr miner's output is 45 per cent lower per man-shift than his corresponding output between 1935 and 1938.

What this means you will understand better when I tell you that our British miner's output per man-shift in October 1946 (the month I have taken for my comparisons) was only seven per cent less than that for 1935 to 1938.

In the Saar coal basin you have conditions not incomparable with those of the Ruhr. And here the German miner, working under the direct supervision of French engineers and French managers—and on a ration of 3,800 calories—is producing 26 per cent less per man-shift than in 1935-38.

That coal was nevertheless exported from the Ruhr to France, Belgium, Holland, Italy and the other customers in quantities corresponding to the experts' estimate was due to two factors:—

1 To a decision of the British Cabinet that the export schedule must be met whatever the production;

2 That when we took over the Ruhr in July 1945 there were stocks of coal at the pitheads amounting to 5,000,000 tons.

By September of last year those 5,000,000 tons of pithead stocks were exhausted, and now the exports from the Ruhr are having to be cut down drastically.

France, who has been counting on getting more and more coke and coking coal from the Ruhr this winter than she was getting six months ago, finds herself getting less than ever.

The French factories had to proclaim an extra long Christmas holiday lasting from December 22 to January 5.

The electric power situation is so bad that when I was in the industrial north of France I found them announcing a rationing scheme which will give each factory only four days' work a week.

But the cut in Ruhr coal exports has not meant more coal for German industry—not yet. But it will. For that is where Dr Rudolf Muller comes in.

The man Muller

WHO is Dr Muller? He is a tall, slim and smiling 42-year-old German lawyer-industrialist who has been appointed head of the German Economic Administration which on January 1 took over the executive direction of German economic affairs in the amalgamated British and U.S. zones. (He will be subject to the policy control of the British-American bipartite council in Berlin).

Dr Muller is the champion of them all when it comes to the Coal Game.

The doctor's first act was to prepare a six-point programme for the "Economic Regeneration of Germany." It was really a six-point ultimatum to the British-American Military Government. He even used the good old Hitler threat word of 1936 fame: *"Alsbald."*

"If the plan is not adopted alsbald," said Dr Muller, with the unanimous backing of his colleagues, "we shall have to resign. Because we shall not be able to do the job you want us to do."

Who scores?

I HAVE a copy of the original German text of the plan in front of me now. It will make my French friends' hair stand on end when they read it. Much of it has already been accepted and confirmed as British-U.S. policy in the Bevin-Byrnes announcement. The rest is being considered now by the bipartite British-U.S. Economic Committee in Berlin.

And I am told it is as good as adopted. For, in the view of most of the experts, the plan does present the only hope of getting the Ruhr miners to collaborate in producing the coal which Europe needs to get its industries going again.

Game and set for the Germans? Or is it game, set and match?—

—World Copyright

Rupert and Ninky—17



Hardly has Bill spoken when Ninky gives a twitch and turns sideways. Rupert and Bill are so startled that they draw back and, before they can recover their wits and make a grab, the little donkey has jerked himself off the eiderdown and right out through the open window. "There, what did I tell you?" cries Rupert. "That's just what he did before, only last time he tried to jump into the fire!" Bill gapes after Ninky and is too astonished to say anything at all.

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According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1946, by Ely Culbertson)

To many players the question of whether or not to cover an honour brings up the shade of Hamlet and his "to be or not to be." Actually, the problem is not nearly so abstruse. Let's consider the following hand:

South, dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q J 10 4 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ Q 8
♣ Q J 9

WEST
♠ 6 5
♥ K Q J 3
♦ J 7 5 4
♣ 10 8 6

EAST
♠ 7
♥ A 10 5
♦ 10 9 6 3 2
♣ K 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 9 8 2
♥ 8 7 4
♦ A K
♣ A 7 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 spade	Pass	2 spades	Pass
4 spades	Pass	Pass	Pass

East-West collect three heart tricks before declarer can get in. After that South takes the lead with a diamond and draws trumps. His problem now is simple: must he or must he not concede a club trick?

Disregarding all the other suits, let us examine the club situation. Aside from unimportant small clubs, declarer lacks the king and ten. Unless these key cards are placed miraculously, one club trick must be lost unless the opponents, with rare altruism, co-operate. As the East-West cards are placed, if declarer leads the club queen from dummy and East obliges with a cover, the ace wins and West's ten is subject to a simple finesse. If East is not so naive, declarer is helpless. The queen holds, of course, but what can declarer do now? If he leads the jack, East covers, and West's ten becomes a third-round trick; if declarer leads the nine, he must go up with the ace anyway, or lose to the ten.

Thus, transferring the problem to the defender's side of the table, it should easily be seen that when dummy holds any such combination as the one shown, East, the player sitting directly over dummy, should not cover the first honour led but should most decidedly cover the second one. Only if East himself held the ten as well as the king would there be any point to the first-round cover, and even in that case it would not be necessary unless the K-10 were blank.

Players will do themselves a service to study this situation.

Crossword Puzzle

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



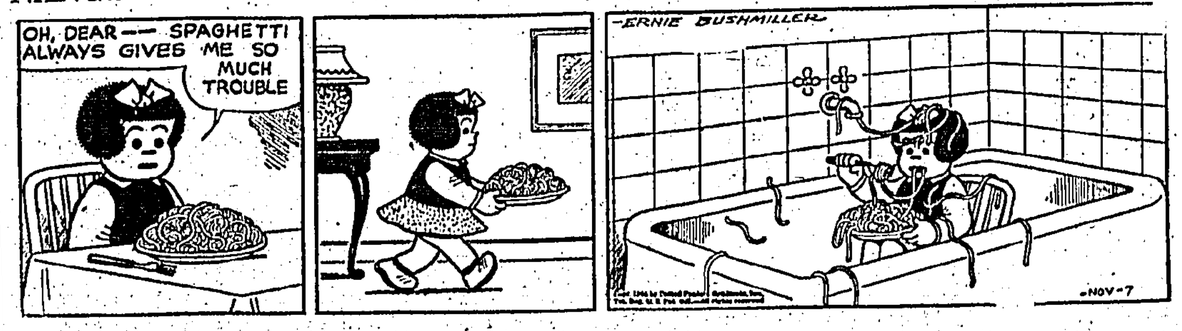
ACROSS
1—Joke
4—Spanish dance
9—Fall back
12—Mine product
13—Severity
14—Fruit drink
15—Risk
17—Casual
19—Twenty-four hours
20—Flirted
21—Titan
22—Brew
24—Kind of meat
27—Household god
28—Conjunction
29—Bit of poetry
30—Public notice
31—Superlative ending
32—Beetle
33—Tantalum (sym.)
34—Sparkling
36—Dog's foot
37—Affirmative
38—Brother of King George of England
39—Total
40—At this point
41—Tooth-like notches
43—Prefix: bad
44—Flowering shrub
46—Cushion
49—Harem dweller
50—Gazelle of Arabia
53—Open (poet.)
53—River in Russia
54—Pauses
55—Pale

DOWN
1—Dolly
2—Macaw
3—Sex
4—Low card
5—Where planes fly
6—Sign of rejection
7—Canyon
8—Spoken
9—Aid to elopement
10—Fuss
11—Stone
16—Wander about
18—At no time
20—Ancient
21—Loose
22—Chaplain
23—Kimmel
25—A flower
26—Renting contract
28—Snake
29—Promise
31—Acid salt
32—Obstruction
35—Aborigine
36—Matter from wound
37—Saffron
38—Steady look
40—Harold
42—Close
43—Wire measure
44—Turf
45—Professional
46—Favored one
47—Price-fixing agency
48—Skin growth
51—Exists

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NANCY Elbow Room

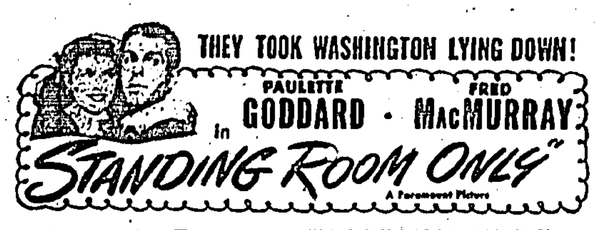
By Ernie Bushmiller



When You Feel Tired and Restless
take
Elliotts Nerve and Brain Tonic
On Sale at All Dispensaries

ORIENTAL

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.15—9.15 P.M.
Last 4 Time for You to See the Hilarious Comedy of the Girl Who Tried to Get a Bed for Her Boss in Washington!



Commencing To-morrow: "PRACTICALLY YOURS"

TO-DAY ONLY **MAJESTIC** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

THE GLORIOUS ROMANCE OF THE SHOW WORLD!
19 GREAT SONGS!

JUDY GARLAND in "FOR ME AND MY GAL"
with GEORGE MURPHY • GENE KELLY
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

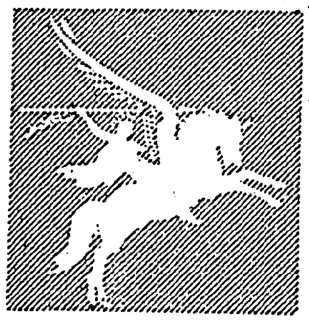
— TO-MORROW — ROBERT TAYLOR in "BILLY THE KID" In Technicolor!

COMING TO THE **LEE THEATRE**



Screen play by Robert Carson • Produced by HARRY JOE BROWN • Directed by CHARLES VIDOR.

TO THE HEROES WHO WORE THIS BADGE



Field-Marshal Montgomery said:

"In the annals of the British Army there are many glorious deeds. But there can be few episodes more glorious than the epic of Arnhem, and those who follow after will find it hard to live up to the standards that you have set.

"In years to come it will be a great thing for a man to be able to say—'I fought at Arnhem.'"

The Amazing Story of Arnhem is faithfully re-enacted by the survivors in:

Theirs is the Glory

— NEXT CHANGE —
AT THE **KING'S**

NOTICE

HONGKONG/AUSTRALIAN FREIGHT CONFERENCE

The Public are hereby notified that all Receiving, Storing and Delivery charges which have hitherto been paid by Steamship Companies will be for Consignees account in respect of all vessels commencing to load in Australia on and after the 15th January 1947.

NOTICE

FAR EASTERN FREIGHT CONFERENCE

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WEMBLEY AS CENTRE FOR OLYMPICS

When the Olympic games are held in Britain in 1948 for the first time for 40 years the great sports centre at Wembley, a suburb in the northwest of London, is likely to be the scene of many of the contests.

The Stadium at Wembley is famous in Britain's sporting calendar because here is played the final match for the Football Cup, the chief fixture of the football season. The great track and jumping events will probably be held in the Stadium, which has accommodation for 100,000 spectators.

The Wembley centre includes a Sports Hall designed for indoor track competitions. It can also be used as a swimming pool and for the moment is frozen over to provide for ice hockey.

Only the shortage of soft woods from which to make a track has prevented the British indoor championships being held there. The authorities took the view that it would be wrong to use so much timber for a sporting event when wood is in so great demand for house building.

Other Events

Not all the Olympic events will be at Wembley. Rowing will probably be contested down the river at Henley, where one of the most famous regattas is held. Stands to accommodate 20,000 people can be built at Henley. Bisley, centre of Britain's greatest shooting matches, will see the marksmanship contests. The modern pentathlon will probably be decided at Aldershot, the military centre to the west of London.

An outdoor swimming pool is being constructed at Wembley for the preliminaries and heats of the swimming and diving contests. The finals will be held in a fine covered pool.

Because of the large contingent from South America, including swimmers and divers, Spanish has been added to English and French as one of the three official languages of the 1948 games.

Safety Glass Now Safer

A new and improved form of safety glass is now being manufactured in Britain. Instead of cellulose acetate between the two covering sheets of glass the new form has a layer of polyvinyl butyral. This new plastic material, it is claimed, has an elasticity of eight or nine times that of cellulose acetate and an ultimate tensile stress of 4,000 lbs. per square inch as against 2,500 lbs.

Thus a greatly increased resistance to impact is given, so much so that the new glass can now be used under conditions in which it may be exposed to bullets.

The interlayer has a very low capacity for absorbing moisture, and for this reason the sheets do not need sealing on to the cut edge. It can be cut to any desired shape by an ordinary diamond and requires no varnishing or other sealing treatment at the edges.

France Going Puritan

ACTION AGAINST HENRY MILLER'S NOVELS

Chastened by the war, the traditionally morally carefree French are at present subjecting themselves to a stiff dose of Puritan austerity, says Reuter. One the heels of the closing of French houses of ill fame, it is learned that a court action has been started to ban the publication and sale of such epic sex novels as "Tropic of Capricorn," "Tropic of Cancer" and "Black Spring" by the American novelist Henry Miller.

The new moral uplift drive is spearheaded by the French Cartel for Moral and Social Action—a cartel which, made up of various religious and youth societies, has been stubbornly agitating for the elevation of French morals since 1883.

Only since the war however, has it begun to make any real headway. It takes the lion's share of the credit for the recent closing of French houses of prostitution.

Its suit against the publishers of Henry Miller is merely the opening shot in a long-range campaign to purify through government censorship all modes of public information and entertainment—films, radio, newspapers and magazines as well as books, according to Daniel Parker, Secretary General of the Cartel.

In addition, it is fighting for the gradual introduction of prohibition, and for government control measures to prevent adult workers from leading younger workers astray in French factories.

The Cartel hopes to succeed through untiring legislative lobbying and crushing barrages of propaganda, both written and radio.

"That is how we rooted out prostitution," Parker explains. "If we could do that, we can do anything with little patience."

Legal Precedent

Parker, a lean, thin-lipped, greying man, views the Cartel's suit against Miller's publishers as something of a military expedient.

"In general," he declared, "we don't bother with direct legal action. We prefer to work on a high legislative level. Miller's books, however, are so grossly obscene that we felt honour bound to descend into the legal arena.

"When we get Miller's books banned, perhaps the rest of the commercial vendors of filth will think twice before corrupting the public."

The Cartel also hopes, by the Miller case, to establish a legal precedent for the banning of "obscene" literature. French laws against public obscenity—which Parker asserts the Cartel pushed through the National Assembly just before the war—state that a book can only be banned for obscenity after it has been judged obscene by a special government committee. This book-banning committee was only formed last March—under pressure from the Cartel—according to Parker—so the Miller case will be the first literary obscenity case to be tried under the new laws.

Art And Freedom

The committee composed of three legal men, a representative of the Ministry of Education, a representative of a moral reform society, and a representative of the Union of the French Family, has unanimously condemned Miller's book as "the lowest and most offensive pornography expressed in wilfully filthy language."

On the basis of the committee's judgment, Parker is convinced the Cartel will get a judgment against Miller's publishers. The case is still in the preparatory stage, and is not expected to come to trial for several weeks. Meanwhile, municipal judges and lawyers assigned to the case refuse to make any predictions as to its outcome.

Parker admits that sales of "naughty" books have jumped skyhigh in the last few weeks owing to the publicity given the suit. But this does not bother him. "I give them freely their ill-gotten gains. When the police start burning their books they will need the money," he says.

The Cartel has recently been savagely attacked in the Paris press on the grounds that it is attempting to stifle freedom of thought and expression.

Parker shrugs off such criticism impatiently. "There is no question of freedom of thought or the suppression of art involved," he says.

"Something Is Wrong"

"It is obvious that art cannot be created out of excrement. Miller's vile psychological excretions, for example, may be of interest to the psycho-analyst but they are not art, and do great damage to public morality. If a book, or a film, or a magazine is vulgar and offensive to good taste, it cannot be artistic, and in the interests of the nation it should be banned."

Regarding the dangers of abuse of censorship, he says: "It is better to risk the destruction of a little genuine art than to allow our children to be morally warped by perverse ideas which should never be expressed in public, let alone in print. There are physiological acts which are appropriate to the bathroom, but out of place in the Place de l'Opera."

Parker is optimistic about the moral future of France. "The French people are ripe for a moral revolution," he asserts. "After the war, we turned a lot of corrupt politicians into the street. Now we can get to work on corruption in the French public.

"The Cartel's meetings are attracting larger crowds every day. The time will soon be over when foreigners can come to France for the pleasures that are outlawed at home. France must no longer be the moral cesspool of the world. We must clean up our radio, our films, our publications, and cut down our drinking."

French Concerned

Most average Frenchmen view with concern the new wave of Puritanism in France, but they are too occupied with problems of keeping alive to do anything about it.

Of 20 Parisians interviewed at random, 18 were opposed to the outlawing of prostitution.

Of the two who favoured the prostitution ban, one, a young Communist typesetter, said: "We have always prided ourselves on our moral reasonableness, and freedom. We used to say that a man's vices were his own business. But we lost the war. Something is wrong. Perhaps a little morality will do us good."

Only the twentieth Parisian interviewed, an elderly lady, was all for austerity. "France is soft," she said, "we should be forced to sleep in our own beds, drink water instead of wine, and go to early Mass. That's the only way we'll ever be a great nation again."

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I don't see why you make such a fuss about me backing into your car a little bit—they're both old cars and I'm not complaining about the damage to mine!"



LOWLAND SCOTS NEWSLETTER

BY F. CROWLEY

Scots Canadians, members of the Natives of Glasgow Reunion, are already sending round the Fiery Cross for their biggest-ever invasion of Scotland in 16 years.

When they made their last visit to Scotland in 1932, the heaviest-ever tourist train pulled out of Winnipeg to join the Duchess of Bedford and give her her greatest passenger list out of Montreal.

Next June the Runion members hope to sail in a Clyde-built liner to arrive here simultaneously with parties from Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

Over 200 have signed up for the trip in Toronto, while Fort William, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Moose Jaw, and Port Arthur are making final details.

It is probable that the Fort William (Ontario) Ladies' Pipe Band will travel with the party, while the Singing Stars, entertainers famous throughout musical festivals in Canada, an all-female choir, will greet the homeland in Gaelic as they sweep up the Firth of Clyde in the summer.

Ne'erday—New Style

What with talk of the Rangers-Celtic supporters banning the annual meeting of the clubs, and the lack of whisky to celebrate, it is perhaps as well that the Lanarkshire miners celebrated the nationalisation of the coal industry on January 1.

To mark the taking over of trusteeship by the National Coal Board, Union officials arranged for flags to be flown from every pithead in the County. The flags bore the letters NBC, and where possible, social functions were held in mining communities to mark the occasion.

In Glenoch Cottage, Edinburgh Road, Stranraer, Mr J. M'Haffie has a bottle of whisky which is over 100 years old, together with a bottle of champagne which has also passed the century.

Sad to say, Mr M'Haffie does not intend to open the whisky yet, despite the fact this is The Real Mackay, bottled by William Wallace & Co., Kilmarnock, in 1760, as the faded label shows. This is the firm taken over by Johnny Walker in 1912.

Mr M'Haffie says he doesn't indulge in whisky and he is taking the bottle back to Queensland with him, but drouthy Scots will agree with experts who claim that whisky does not improve in bottle—in fact, there's likely to be a slow, almost imperceptible, deterioration. A bottle of whisky kept for 20 years, they point out, or the classical American bottle of brandy handed down unbroken over 150 years, is of no greater intrinsic value than when first bottled.

New Key Industry

What might well be termed a new key industry is likely to be set up in Glasgow neighbourhood—the manufacture of typewriters.

The Olivetti Company of Ivrea, Italy, the largest typewriter factory in Europe, is setting up a branch factory here and the hope is expressed that this may be the forerunner of adding machines and teleprinters.

The Olivetti machines are expected to be on the market in about a year's time and should do much to relieve the present situation with many firms who are working with worn-out machines owing to the long waiting lists for supplies.

"Printer In Edinburgh"

By the assumption of control of R. & R. Clark, Ltd., by the University of Edinburgh, one of the best-known printers in Britain has been handed over in the form of a unique gift. This follows the announcement of the establishment of Edinburgh University Press, but the deed of gift involving Clark's was a close secret until now.

The late Edward Clark, who died in 1926, known by his own request as "Printer in Edinburgh," left the residue of his estate to such charitable bodies or purposes in the city of Edinburgh, or the city or county of London, and for this the University of Edinburgh was to be deemed a charitable purpose.

Founded by the son of a Montrose solicitor, the firm has produced works of the finest quality for British publishers, including the Nonesuch Press and Macmillan's, turning out books by such authors as Shaw, Hardy, and Yeats.

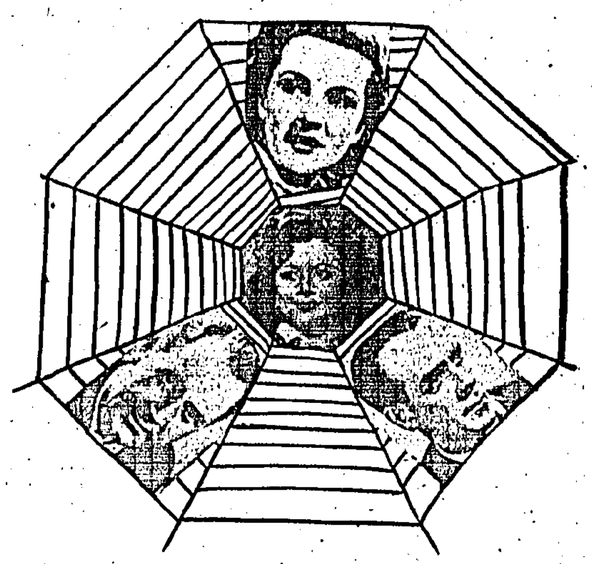
Shaw's exacting typographical requirements exercised the firm. Once he wanted absolutely even spacing, which was found impossible, and after many efforts the firm tried him out by literally giving him even spacing—even to the extent of splitting the definite article, putting it at the end of the line and he in the next!

The comment of GBS was characteristic.

"Excellent," he said. "But don't go so far as to prove the author to be a damned fool."

SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

HER BEAUTY ALLURED, HER EYES ENTICED MEN WERE PAWNS IN HER LIFE



MARGARET LOCKWOOD • ANNE CRAWFORD
IAN HUNTER • BARRY K. BARNS
in
NERA CASPARY'S
"BEDELIA"

A JOHN CORFIELD Production — Released by EAGLE-LION
ALSO Latest Gaumont British News

SPECIAL MORNING PERFORMANCE
SUNDAY, 19TH AT 11.30 A.M. ONLY
"APPOINTMENT IN BERLIN"
with Georgo SANDERS • Marguerite CHAPMAN
A Columbia Picture——AT REDUCED PRICES

CENTRAL THEATRE
— 5 SHOWS TO-DAY —
AT 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.



ALHAMBRA
NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON
— TO-DAY & TO-MORROW —
AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.
IT'S THE SEASON'S SENSATIONAL HIT!



INTRODUCING 'BELITA' with the ICE-CAPADES COMPANY!
A REPUBLIC PICTURE.

CATHAY WANCHAI ROAD WANCHAI
— SHOWING TO-DAY —
At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
NELSON EDDY • RISE STEVENS in
"CHOCOLATE SOLDIER"
An M-G-M Picture
— TO-MORROW —
BETTY GRABLE GEO. MONTGOMERY in "CONEY ISLAND"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in TECHNICOLOR

Lowering Aircraft Payloads

London, Jan. 16.

Though from February 1, British European Airways will cut by approximately 1,000 pounds the payloads on their Dakota aircraft, operating between London and Scandinavia and other European capitals, there is likelihood that the Provisional International Civil Air Organisation may intervene with the request for old loads to be maintained.

This is the opinion of informed aviation circles here to-day.

Requests for cuts in British European Airways payloads came originally from the Scandinavian aviation authorities and talks have been taking place in London on this question for some time.

The British European Airways had hoped to maintain the present arrangement with PICAO until the end of the year by which time it is proposed to replace the Dakotas on the twice-weekly Scandinavian routes with the 21-seater British Viking type of aircraft.

Other airlines which use Dakotas are affected by the safety demand and should a line refuse it, airfields at Scandinavian capitals might be closed to it.

Dutch Airlines, which has one of the biggest services on air routes from Amsterdam to Scandinavian countries, carries exactly the same payloads as British European Airways planes and an official agreed that some reduction might have to be made.

But Norwegian Airways, which uses Dakotas extensively, complies with the request from the Scandinavian authorities that payloads should not exceed 1,713 kilos. Swedish and Danish Airway services say that they are not affected by the dispute.—Reuter.

Swedish Request

Stockholm, Jan. 16.

The Swedish Ministry of Civil Aviation to-day sent letters to civilian air ministries of all countries with air services to Sweden, informing them that it objects to passenger aircraft being loaded above the manufacturer's safe flying load limit.

The six ministries concerned are those of Britain, the United States, Denmark, Norway, Holland and Belgium.

The Swedish Air Ministry has invoked the decision taken by the PICAO in Montreal last autumn that air companies could continue to exceed the manufacturer's safe flying loads if the air authorities of the countries they were flying to did not object.

The Swedish Ministry in its letter says that it objects because the cold northern air makes aircraft particularly susceptible to icing and because Swedish flying-fields are not constructed to take heavy flying loads.—Reuter.

BURMA YOUTH ARMIES

London, Jan. 17.

The organisation of "private armies"—by political parties—in Burma is regarded with some apprehension by the Burma Office in London.

In some respects the political armies serve a useful purpose, a spokesman said yesterday, but there is a possibility of clashes in the political campaign preceding the general elections next April.

The armed groups, in regions where police and military forces are inadequate, oppose the "Dacoits," roving groups of brigands, it was said here.

All Burmese political parties are recruiting youths, some of whom are being formed into military and semi-military units. Their arms, left by Japanese forces which occupied Burma, are mostly rifles, machine-guns and grenades.

The Japanese left about 50,000 arms of all types and the small Burmese Army has taken possession of only 40,000.—Associated Press.

QUEST FOR OIL IN SIND

Karachi, Jan. 17.

Oil prospecting operations in Sind, in the Punjab, which were suspended during the war, will be resumed early in February, according to Dr Brown, geophysicist of the Burma Oil Company, who is here with two seismograph parties and technical equipment.

A test will be drilled in Lakhara, 150 miles from Karachi.—Associated Press.

Coming Soon
VIVIEN LEIGH
CLAUDE RAINS
STEWART GRANGER
STANLEY HOLLOWAY
FLORA ROBSON and
A CAST of 1,000
in
BERNARD SHAW'S
Mighty Spectacle
in TECHNICOLOR!
CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA
Watch For It.

Army-Navy Merger Plan Announced By Truman

Washington, Jan. 17.

President Truman to-day announced that the Secretaries of War and Navy had reached a "full and complete agreement on the merger of the armed forces." A joint letter from Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson and Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal offered to support the legislation setting up a Council of National Defence.

Under this plan, the armed forces would be organised under a Secretary of National Defence "so as to place the Army, Navy, including the Marines and Naval Aviation, and Air Force each under a military chief under the departments of Army, Navy and Air Force respectively.

Each would be under a secretary and under the overall direction of the Secretary of National Defence, would be administered as an individual unit.

The secretary of any of the three departments would be able, at any time, to present to the President any report or recommendation relating to his department providing he first informed the Secretary of National Defence.

The two service Secretaries, who long have differed over the Army's advocacy of merger, submitted to President Truman a proposed executive order calling for unification.

The President in a letter to Patterson and Forrestal, expressed pleasure at the agreement and said it was a practicable and workable plan.

The Secretaries agreed to support legislation incorporating the following points:

1. The establishment of a council of National Defence, a National Security Resources Board and a Central Intelligence Agency. The last already exists.
2. The organisation of armed forces under a Secretary of National defence.—Associated Press.

SPITZBERGEN STATEMENT EXPECTED

Oslo, Jan. 16.

A statement on the Russo-Norwegian talks on the joint defence of Spitzbergen, strategic group of islands at the western outlet of the Arctic Ocean belonging to Norway, will be issued by the Norwegian Foreign Office to-day, says the Norwegian Telegraph Agency.

The Norwegian Parliament's Foreign Affairs and Constitutional Committee held a meeting yesterday to discuss the Russian statement on Spitzbergen, the agency added.

A revision of the Spitzbergen Treaty of February 9, 1920, to which Italy, France, the United States, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Japan were parties, would be necessary for any arrangement to fortify the islands, and to permit their joint defence by Russia and Norway to be put into effect, it was stated in London yesterday.

Britain, it is understood, does not admit the Soviet claim to Bear Island, one of the Spitzbergen group.

The suggestion that the 1920 treaty could not remain valid was made in a Soviet official communique issued in Moscow on Tuesday night. The communique said "an understanding" was reached in the Russian-Norwegian negotiations on the joint defence of Spitzbergen in negotiations in 1944 and 1945 and that the latest talks between M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, and Halvard Lange, Norwegian Foreign Minister, in New York last November were carried on "in the spirit of previous negotiations".—Reuter.

Ex-Generals Executed

London, Jan. 16.

One former lieutenant-general and three former major-generals of the "White Russian" movement have been condemned to death and the sentences carried out, Moscow radio said to-night.

They were Lieutenant-General A. P. Shkuro, Major-General Prince Sultan Girei, Major-General S. N. Krasnov and Major-General T. I. Romanov.

Also sentenced were Ataman (Cossack title) P. N. Krasnov and the German S. S. General Helmut von Panwitz.

All six were sentenced to death by hanging. The sentences were given after they all pleaded guilty to a charge that "on the orders of German Intelligence, they were waging, with the assistance of 'white guard' units formed by them, an armed struggle against the Soviet Union during the patriotic war, and were engaged in espionage, sabotage and terrorism against the USSR."

All accused, with the exception of von Panwitz, were described as leaders in the "White Russian" movement in the civil war (in the early twenties).—Reuter.

Truman Pleads For Tolerance

Washington, Jan. 17.

President Truman to-day asked for help in preventing a new outbreak of "race discrimination and religious bigotry".

Addressing the recently established Civil Rights Committee, the President declared that the United States could easily be faced with a situation similar to that of 1922 when "there was an organisation that met on hills and burned crosses and worked behind sheets".

He added that he wanted the "Bill of Rights implemented in fact".—Associated Press.

Argentine Envoy To Spain

Madrid, Jan. 16.

Senor Pedro Radio arrived to-day to fill the post of Argentine Ambassador to Spain, vacant since the former Ambassador, Senor Felipe Espil, left a year ago.

The Ambassador's arrival motivated a demonstration at Ocha station, the biggest since the December 9 rally against the United Nations but not on the same scale.—United Press.

CUNNINGHAM FLIES TO LONDON

London, Jan. 16.

Sir Alan Cunningham, High Commissioner for Palestine, left London late to-night in a specially chartered four-engined airliner.

He has been in London for consultations with the Government on the Palestine question.—Reuter.

SMALL POWERS INVITED TO STATE VIEWS

London, Jan. 16.

The time-table for hearing the views of the six smaller Allied powers, who have made application to state their attitude on the German peace settlement, was fixed to-day by the deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers.

Instructions were given to the secretary of the conference to draft invitations to the six powers concerned to attend at Lancaster House as follows: Poland, Monday afternoon, January 20; the Netherlands, Tuesday afternoon, January 21; Yugo-Slavia, Wednesday afternoon, January 22; Australia, Thursday afternoon, January 23; South Africa, Friday, January 24; Canada, Saturday January 25.

Agreement was not reached on two matters left over from yesterday afternoon's session; firstly, whether all the smaller Allied governments should be present when any one was stating its case and, secondly, whether documents supplied by one government should be circulated to all interested parties.

Britain pressed that all the small powers should be allowed to be present.

Soviet View

The Soviet deputy maintained that it would scarcely be possible for the small powers to sit through the 18 meetings in question in complete silence except when stating their own case, but that to allow them to speak at other times would turn the meeting into a general conference—a proceeding definitely ruled out by the instructions from the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The French deputy thought that it would be possible to issue invitations making it clear that, except when stating their own case, the delegates of the small powers must keep silent.

The United States deputy thought that the small nations associated with the Big Four in the war ought also to be fully associated with them in peace.

Since the four views were brought no closer together the question was left over until to-morrow's meeting on Germany at 3.30 p.m.

Written Memoranda

The conference did, however, agree that when the small states make their arrangements, which they are to be urged to accompany in all cases with written memoranda, the deputies are to be able to ask them questions and that the questions and answers are to be recorded for the benefit of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

This decision was felt by political observers in London to meet the important point raised by some of the west European states as to whether discussion with the Big Four deputies would be permitted or whether they would be allowed only to make statements before they were called upon to retire.

The deputies completed their preparation of the procedural machinery for hearing the views of the smaller states by setting up a drafting committee composed of a delegate from each of the big four countries to prepare a report of the conference to go to the March session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The drafting committee has the right, if necessary, to set up an expert sub-committee.—Reuter.

Greeks Asked To Fight Communism

Athens, Jan. 17.

General Napoleon Zervas, Rightist resistance leader in Greece, threatened yesterday to take his followers into the mountains to "fight Communist bands" if a Government of National Union is not formed.

The 56-year-old Zervas, who leads 25 National Party votes in Parliament, told the Associated Press yesterday that the Tsaldaris government had failed completely in its efforts to restore order, and that the time was approaching when he and his followers would have to side with the "people who are being persecuted and massacred by the Communists."

"When this happens," Zervas said, "I will cease to be a political figure and become a simple soldier—an armed citizen, helping those in a state of agony."

The General declared that the Communist programme means simply that if Greece wants to survive, she must be a bridge for Slavism to extend to the Aegean.

"This war is being waged by Greek Communists on orders from the Slavs, and the success of this offensive would deliver Greece to the Slavs," he said.

"What Greece needs," he asserted, "is soldiers. All Greeks, from the King down to the last Greek, should defend Greece.—Associated Press.

U.S. SERGT.'S SUICIDE

Frankfurt, Jan. 16.

Staff Sergeant Clarence Roberts of Berwick, Pennsylvania, shot himself in the head with a 45-calibre pistol in his Wetzlar, Germany, billet on Sunday night.

His death was discovered on Monday morning when Roberts failed to appear for duty. He was found by a German locksmith who drove down the billet door to find Roberts lying in bed fully clothed with arms folded across his chest and the pistol in the crook of the left elbow. His companions first became suspicious when Hannelore Frick, a German girl who worked with him, sent another German to wake Roberts on Monday morning when it appeared he would be late for work.

The German reported that Roberts' room was locked and a locksmith was sent for. He found Robert's body and called the military police who found Fraulein Frick weeping. No motive for the suicide was mentioned.

Earlier reports that Roberts' home was in Erie were false. Later the statement said, he was enlisted at Erie.—United Press.

ADMIRAL FRASER'S NEW POST

London, Jan. 16.

Admiral Lord Fraser, who in 1943 commanded the British naval forces which sank the German battle cruiser Scharnhorst, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth naval base.

Admiral Fraser, who was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet in December 1944, signed the Japanese surrender document on behalf of Great Britain.—Reuter.

Spitzbergen Issue

Oslo, Jan. 16.

The Foreign Office said in a communique to-day that the Government and Parliament were considering the request made by Russia at the United Nations Assembly to resume negotiations regarding common defence and common economic interests in Spitzbergen.—United Press.

PENICILLIN FOR DANISH KING

Copenhagen, Jan. 16.

King Christian of Denmark, who is in bed at the royal palace suffering from a cold and an infection of the lungs, is being nursed by 67-year-old Queen Alexandrine, a professional nurse.

Although the king is not seriously ill, there is some concern because of his age. He is being given penicillin injections.—Reuter.

OCCUPATION COST TO JAPANESE

Tokyo, Jan. 16.

Occupation costs which constitute one item of Japan's current budget, will total over 38,000,000,000 yen at the end of March, Finance Minister Tanzan Ishibashi said to-day.

In an interview with foreign correspondents, he indicated that at least 20 percent of the expenditure represented excessive charges by profiteering Japanese contractors in constructing homes, barracks and military installations for the Allied Forces.

Ishibashi revealed that Japan's budget for the current fiscal year totals 61,500,000,000 yen. This is a little over half of the country's last wartime budget, but represents considerably less in purchasing power because of inflation.—Associated Press.

BILLY CONN HAS PLANS

New York, Jan. 16.

Billy Conn, who retired from boxing after his poor showing when Joe Louis knocked him out in eight rounds last summer, said to-day he practically had decided to come back in the light-heavyweight division, "the category where I should have remained, for I had no business fighting such a real heavyweight as Louis."

Conn held the world light-heavy title until 1941 when he fought Louis, for the first time, in 13 rounds.

Now only 29, Conn explains; "I would like to wind up my ring career in a better fashion than the memory of that last Louis fight."

Conn now weighs 184 but could reach the light-heavy limit of 175 easily. He visited Mike Jacobs in hospital to-day and said he may make a comeback against Freddie Mills in London.—United Press.

Byrd Still In Icepack

New York, Jan. 16.

The main task force of the Byrd expedition, which logged itself out of an ice pack yesterday, was still in the pack and was delayed by ice to-day though advancing at 10 knots an hour towards Little America.

The Scripps-Howard correspondent, Jim Lucas, aboard USS Mount Olympus, quotes an explanation from Admiral Richard Cruzen for the worst ice conditions in the history of Antarctic exploration that there were too few storms in Antarctica this year to break and drive the pack toward the sea.

Meanwhile the fortnight delay in the pack shortens the expedition's polar schedule by two weeks, which may be overcome by doubling the work schedule of the various exploratory and scientific missions.—United Press.

Sea Lions For London Zoo

After searching for many months, the London Zoo has managed to find two more sea lions to keep company with Gus and Joe, who are the only two now left in the big sea lions' pool at Regent's Park. They are due from California early this year. They will travel in special cages, and one of the crew's tasks on the voyage will be to hose them down regularly!

The beavers who arrived in the London Zoo not long ago are now busy home-building. They are more particular than sea lions, who do not care whether their water is salt or fresh so long as it is wet! Beavers must have fresh water, as salt makes their fur come out. So the beavers in the London Zoo have fresh-water baths fitted in their houses.

All Utah's Salt Is Not In Great Lake

Believe it or not—all the salt in Utah isn't in the Great Salt Lake.

For almost 50 years, the little town of Redmond has been shipping out about 10,000 tons of rock salt every year, which finds its way to livestock in all the surrounding western states, says United Press.

The mine is the only rock salt mine between Kansas and the west coast of America. Ninety per cent of the salt in the region has been mined by one family.

GEORGIA GOVERNORSHIP:

TALMADGE COUP TO TAKE OFFICE

Atlanta, Jan. 17.

Herman Talmadge yesterday moved into the executive office of Ellis Arnall and announced that "as Governor of Georgia, I have taken complete charge of the executive offices at the State Capitol."

The youthful claimant to the executive chair said that it would be "ridiculous to have two Governors sitting in the Capitol" and added that there would be but one.

Talmadge took over Arnall's inner office promptly at nine yesterday morning after aides had ordered the locks changed during the night. Uniformed state police stood at the entrance of the private office, and only news photographers and close political friends were allowed to enter.—Associated Press.

Forced Way In

Atlanta, Jan. 17.

Ellis Arnall attempted to enter the Governor's executive offices here yesterday but was stopped by the secretary of Herman Talmadge, who has claimed the office.

Mr Talmadge took physical possession of the Capitol suite earlier. Mr Arnall's entry was blocked by Bentum Odom, Talmadge's secretary.

Arnall established temporary offices in the rotunda of the State Capitol building and in a downtown office building.

As Arnall arrived in the anteroom, which opens into the executive offices, he was met by Odom and, during a brief exchange of words, Arnall continued to pound on the door demanding admittance. Finally the door was opened and Arnall forced his way in.

He strode across the floor to a door leading into the executive private office where he was met by Talmadge's aide who told him to have a seat when he said he desired to see Mr Talmadge.

Whose Office?

In a blunt question directed at Odom, Arnall said: "Are you denying me the right to enter my office".

Odom insisted that he was not denying Arnall entrance to "your office" but that he would not permit him to "enter the office of Mr Talmadge, who is now the legal Governor of the State of Georgia."

After continued and futile efforts to enter, Arnall turned to the room filled with photographers and newspapermen and Talmadge supporters and said;

"Gentlemen of the press. It is quite obvious that I am denied access to my office. It is quite obvious that Mr Talmadge is afraid to see me face to face.

"Last night a perfect panzer movement was executed, which resulted in the removal of locks from these doors by a military force from the Talmadge organisation. A suit has been instituted in the courts of Georgia to sustain my position. I hereby place on order all Department heads, and notify them that henceforth they act at their peril unless expressly under direction from Ellis Arnall."—Associated Press.

VERDICT ON DAKOTA CRASH

London, Jan. 16.

The official report of the investigation of the British European Airways Dakota crash near Gardermoen airport, Oslo, on August 7, 1946, attributed the crash to an error in airmanship by the pilot.

The reason for the error was given as inexperience of radio range flying, coupled with inadequate aircraft equipment.

The report, issued five months after the crash, said the investigation was conducted by the Norwegian authorities with British representatives.

The Dakota crashed near Gardermoen, killing three crew members and injuring seven passengers and one crewman.

The report said examination of the wreckage failed to reveal any evidence of failure before the crash, although it was noted that the radio range receiver was tuned to range with the radio compass operating. This would leave the pilot at a disadvantage, since the beam north of the zone of silence would have been about 20 degrees wide instead of four degrees.

Weather Conditions

When the pilot reached Gardermoen airport, Flying Control gave weather conditions, indicating visibility of 10 miles. The pilot acknowledged the message, but no further wireless or radio communication was received from the aircraft, the report added.

Airport witnesses last heard the aircraft flying above a cloud base. Later, the Dakota passed over the range station, which is five miles north of the airport. Witnesses seven miles further north heard the sound of a crash. The airport was notified two hours later and rescue crews were immediately dispatched.

The report said the captain's civil flying experience was approximately 2,470 hours, but except for preliminary instruction he had had no experience of radio range flying.—United Press.

7,000 CIVILIANS EVACUATED

(Continued from Page 1)

cember 19 attack at Hanoi. They were taking every care to leave him an opportunity to emerge eventually in this role.

HO AS KEY MAN

The identity of the Viet Namhese negotiators in the truce meetings inside the Viet Namhese lines with neutral Consular representatives seems evidence that Ho is still leading Viet Namhese policy at Haduong.

These negotiators included Ho's Foreign expert, Giam, and his Deputy President, Nguyen Van Ho Both have been Viet Minh (the Independence Party ruling the Viet Namh) leaders from the beginning of the Nationalist movement.

Giam went to France last summer as Viet Namhese negotiator at the Fontainbleau conference on future political organisation of the colony.

Assistant Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Giam is presumably closely associated with Ho Chi-minh who personally took the portfolio of Foreign Affairs because diplomatic recognition of his regime is one of his strongest interests.

When Ho Chi-minh went to Paris last summer, Nguyen Van was acting President in his absence and presumably was Ho Chi-minh's choice to act in his place.—Associated Press.

AUSTRIA TO BE CONSULTED

(Continued from Page 1)

cluding its two principal towns, Klagenfurt and Villach, are regarded as having little prospect of success.

A claim to minority rights for Croats of Burgenland, bordering Hungary, has on the other hand come to the wider public as a surprise and so has the extent to which Yugo-Slavia has tended to indict Austria, not only as a willing accessory to Hitlerite aggression, but even as an aggressor for her own purposes before Anschluss.

It is felt these arguments may assume practical importance not so much as when the frontiers are fixed as in the discussion of safeguards for the permanent democratisation and denazification of Austria.—Reuter.

Dutch To Fly Constellations

Batavia, Jan. 16.

Hans Martin, director of the KLM Dutch Airlines, said today that the KLM hoped in August 1947 to carry out a service between Amsterdam and Batavia with Lockheed Constellations, which will fly the distance, about 7,000 miles, in two and a half days.

He said that a hotel with 66 double rooms is now being built at Karachi, the only night stop en route, for passengers and crew.

Mr Martin said that when the five-times weekly service is begun, the KLM plans to fly three times a week via Calcutta and twice via Bangkok.

He added that a Dutch aviation mission was on its way to New Delhi to negotiate an air agreement with the Indian Government.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:

Friday, January 17

Airmail:
Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Delhi, Sydney, Auckland, 3 p.m.
Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Basra, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marseilles, London, New York, Canada, 3.30 p.m.
Canton, Chungking, Kunming, Foochow, 3.30 p.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsingtao, Peiping, 3.30 p.m.
Foochow, 3 p.m.
Seamail:
Shanghai, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Macao, Tsinshan, Shekki, 4 p.m.
Kongmoon, 4 p.m.
Train:
Canton, 4 p.m.

Saturday, January 18

Airmail:
Manila, 10 a.m.
Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Sourabaya, Sydney, Auckland, 3.30 p.m.
Straits, Egypt, Europe (via London), 3 p.m.
Shanghai, 3.30 p.m.
Canton, Liuchow, Kunming, 3 p.m.
Seamail:
Manila, noon.
Ceylon, India, East and South Africa, noon.
Honolulu, noon.
Swatow, 10 a.m.
Shanghai, 2 p.m.
Tsamkong, 3 p.m.
Manila, Makassar, Sourabaya, Batavia, 3 p.m.
Bangkok, 3 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3 p.m.
Macao, Tsinshan, Shekki, 4 p.m.
Canton, 4 p.m.

Sunday, January 19

Airmail:
Jtangoon, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg, Cairo, London, 10 a.m.
Hoihow, 10 a.m.
Canton, Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsingtao, Peiping, 10 a.m.
Seamail:
Shanghai, 10 a.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCASTS

ZBW on 845 kc from 12.30—1.15 p.m., 6.30—7.30 p.m., and 9—11 p.m., also on 9.52 mc.

6.30 "Swing" with Maxine Sullivan; 7 London Relay: News; 7.10 London Relay: Home News from Britain; 7.15 Turner Layton at the Piano; 7.30 Studio: "You Asked For It."—Variety Request Programme arranged by Lynn Fraser; 8.30 "Maritime Moments"—Songs and Music of the Sea; 9 London Relay: News; 9.10 Studio: Piano Recital by Lubo Shattain; 9.45 Symphony Orchestral Concert; 10.10 Gounod's "Faust" Acts 1 and 2, by the Artistes, Chorus and Orchestra of La Scala Opera, Milan; 11 Close down.

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